(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) G. B. Pant Hospital have sent the requisition to the Employment Exchange. In case of L.N.J.P. Hospital, names from the Employment Exchange have been received on 25-1-1991.

The Education Department have taken steps for filling up 40 out of 72 posts of Chowkidars by interviews. The remaining 32 vacancies of Chowkidars and 46 vacancies of Malis are slotted to be filled up by regularisation of part-time employees and names from the Employment Exchange.

Expenditure incurred on inquiry into Bofors Gun deal

332. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state the estimated expenditure incurred so far on inquiry into Bofors Gun deal by the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): The expenditure incurred so far on the inquiry/investigation into the Bofors Gun Deal is indicated below:

Indian Rupees	Foreign Exchange
11,43,932.24.	SEK 80,494.20
	US$ 60,921.03
	UK £ 197.50
	Lebanese £ 150.00
	SFR 51,374.20

The above excludes the expenditure incurred on hotel charges which was paid by the Indian Missions in the countries visited by the Officers, in connection with the inquiry/investigation into the Bofors Gun deal.

Swedish response in respect of investigation into Bofors Gun deal

333. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Swedish authority has informed Government its reaction with regard to the requests for the assistance in the investigation into the alleged pay offs in the Bofors gun deal; and

(b) if not, what steps Government intends to take with regard to this matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI LALIT VIJAY SINGH): (a) No, Sir.

(b) The matter is being pursued with the Swedish authorities by the C.B.I.

Low Proportion of Women Employees

334. SHRI VIREN J. SHAH: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the feature entitled: 'Women workers being exploited' which appeared in the 'Financial Express' dated the 9th January' 1991, expressing concern on the very low proportion of women employees *vis-a-vis* total employees in the State sector and a disproportionate concentration of these women in jobs requiring lesser skills.

(b) whether Government have conducted any survey on the problems of women employees in the public sector to remove dis-incentives and whether there is any published data on the proportion on women employees serving in the public sector and their role descriptions; and

(c) if so, the reply to part (b) above be in the negative whether Government propose to carry out any special studies, including setting up of a committee to increase the number of women employees in the public sector and enrich their jobs content?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI RAMJI LAL SUMAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) No such specific survey has been conducted or proposed to be conducted. However, under the Employment Market Information Programme of the Directorate General of Employment and Training, Ministry of Labour, data are collected on total employment and women employed in the organised sector (both in public and private sectors). According to this, the percentage of women to the total employment has shown increasing trend over the years.

Under the scheme titled "Survey of Socio-Economic Conditions of Women Workers in Industry", surveys have been undertaken from time to time to study the working and other conditions of women workers in the organised segment of industry, viz., mines, plantations and factories covered under the respective Acts.

The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976 provides for constitution of one or more Advisory Committee with regard to the extent to which women may be employed in such establishments or employments as the Central Government may by notification specify in this behalf. In accordance with this, an Advisory Committee has been set up at the Centre. Most of the State Government/Union Territories have also set up similar Advisory Committees at State level.

NOTICE OF BRECH OF PRIVILEGE RE: ASSAULT ON SHRI T. R. BALU, M.P. IN MADRAS

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House may recall that at its sitting held on Friday, the 22nd Feb. 1991, the matter regarding assault on Shri T. R. Balu, Member of Parliament in Madras was raised. I had then informed the House that I will get the report from the Government and decide the matter of privilege arising therefrom. I have received a report of the Tamil Nadu Government, through the Ministry of Home Affairs yesterday, that is, 25th February, 1991. Tamil Nadu Government have denied that Shri Balu was assaulted in the presence of the Police Commissioner or that medical aid was denied to him. There are thus conflicting versions of the incident. I am, therefore, remitting the matter to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Thank you.

RE: NOTICE OF BREACH OF PRIVILEGE AGAINST RELIANCE INDUSTRIES LIMITED

MR. CHAIRMAN: The House may also recall that on 7th January 1991, Shri A. G. Kulkarni, during the course of a special mention regarding loans by the UCO Bank made certain observations about Reliance Industries. Subsequently, a press communique appeared in the Business and Political Observer New Delhi dated 10th January, 1991, refuting the allegations of Shri Kulkarni. But while doing so, the press communique attributed *mala fide* and improper motives to Shri Kulkarni, Shri Kulkarni gave notice of breach of privilege against the paper as well as the Reliance Industries Limited. A notice was issued to the Editor of the paper as well as the Group Adviser, Corporate Communications of the Reliance Industries Limited in New Delhi asking them what they have to say in the matter. While the Editor of the paper stated that he has only reproduced the press communique, the Group Adviser explained the position. I was not satisfied with the explanations offered nor with the expression of regret. I, therefore, feel that a prima facie case of breach of privilege has been made out against the Group Adviser of Reliance Industries Limited and the Editor of the newspaper. I therefore, refer the case to the Committee of Privileges for examination, investigation and report under Rule. 203 of the Rajya Sabha Rules.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Thank you.